decontrolled year). Owing to timely measures taken by Govt. of India, the NPK ratio is narrowing down. The ratio became 7.9:2.8:1.0 during 1997-98 which shows the improvement in the fertiliser use balance.

The initiatives taken by Government include:

(i) Giving concession of Rs. 1000/- tonne on indigenous DAP/MOP w.e.f. 1992-93. Concession of Rs. 340/ tonnes was given on SSP from Kharif 1993 onwards.

(ii) The concession has gradually been increased which is at present Rs. 4000/ tonne on indigenous DAP and Rs. 2500/ tonne on imported DAP/MOP and Rs. 900/ tonne on SSP.

(iii) Proportionate concession is being given on NPK complexes.

(iv) Fixation of uniform indicative prices by Central Govt. for P & K fertilisers (except SSP for which State Govts. continue to indicate the prices).

(v) Additional transport subsidy has been introduced from 1.4.97 for North Eastern States including Sikkim and Jammu & Kashmir. From 1.10.98 it has been decided to extend the same scheme to Himachal Pradesh and hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

(vi) The balanced used of Fertilisers is promoted through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Balanced & Integrated Use of Fertilisers' which envisages enhanced use of organic and bio-fertilisers in conjunction with chemical fertilisers. The scheme also provides for strengthening of soil testing programme in the country so as to promote balanced fertiliser use based on soil test analysis.

(d) The High Powered Fertilisers Pricing Policy Review Committee (HPC) has made recommendations regarding a fertiliser policy. Inter-Ministerial consultations and dialogue with the Industry have been undertaken in regard to the recommendations made by the High Powered Committee. A new fertilier policy will be announced after conclusion of this exercise.

Ban on PTV

*66. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Andhra Pradesh has banned PTV;

(b) whether it is a fact that a book banned by any State, stands automatically banned in all the States;

(c) whether on this analogy, PTV stands banned throughout the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI MUKHTAR NAQVI): (a) No, Sir. The transmission/ re-transmission of objectionable programmes on PTV channel has been prohibited in the twin cities of Hyderabad and Secunderabad only.

(b) According to Section 95 of the code of Criminal Procedure, a book banned by any State Government through a notification, may be seized by any Policy Officer wherever found in India.

(c) and (d) According to Section 19 of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 an Authorised Officer may, in public interest, prohibit any cable operator from transmitting/re-transmitting any particular programme. As prohibition is specific to the particular cable operator(s), the analogy with banning of book is not relevant.